

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

MBFR-04 SAJ-01 EB-11 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-10 H-03 DRC-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4779

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: BURDENSARING: STUDY GROUP'S REPORT TO NAC

REF: USNATO 4448, BONN 14542 (PARA. 7)

1. INTERNATIONAL STAFF HAS CIRCULATED FINAL DRAFT OF BURDEN-SHARING STUDY GROUP'S DRAFT REPORT TO NAC ((AC/291-WP(73)1(2D REV)) (HAND-CARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY COL ACKERSON, OSD/ISA). DRAFT REPORT PRESENTS DATA ON PAST US MILITARY BOP DEFICIT WITH NATO AND ADDITIONAL BUDGETARY COSTS INCURRED BY US TO KEEP ITS FORCES IN EUROPE. IT ALSO SETS OUT POSSIBLE OPTIONS THAT COULD COMPENSATE FOR THE ADDED US BUDGETARY COSTS AND COULD HELP ALLEVIATE THE US BOP DEFICIT ON THE MILITARY ACCOUNT. BASED ON EXISTING GUIDANCE, WE HAVE SUGGESTED CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS IN NEW DRAFT WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE INCORPORATED AT NEXT MEETING OF STUDY GROUP.

2. STUDY GROUP PLANS TO TAKE FINAL ACTION ON REPORT AT OCTOBER 15 MEETING AND FORWARD TO NAC. FURTHER EXTENSIVE US CHANGES AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT SERVE ULTIMATE US GOAL. WE ARE IN THE AWKWARD POSITION OF ASKING OUR ALLIES FOR A MULTILATERAL BURDENSARING SOLUTION WHILE THE US CONTINUALLY SLOWS DOWN THE WORK OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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STUDY GROUP THROUGH LATE SUBMISSION OF DATA.

3. IN MY VIEW, THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE STUDY GROUP PROVIDES AN ADEQUATE BASIS FOR NAC DISCUSSION. I RECOMMEND THAT THE US

ACCEPT THE REPORT, RESERVING ON DATA THAT WE HAVE A MAJOR
PROBLEM WITH, IF ANY. THE NAC CAN THEN GET ON WITH THE NEXT
STEP--DECIDING AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL WHICH ALTERNATIVES SHOULD
BE PURSUED FOR SOLVING THE BURDENSARING PROBLEM.
RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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